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Appl. No.: 10/500,808

Response to Statement of Reasons for Allowance mailed August 10, 2006

Comment dated September 1, 2006

REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application.

Receipt of the second Notice of Allowance mailed August 10, 2006 is acknowledged.

It is noted that in the "Reasons for Allowance," the Examiner states:

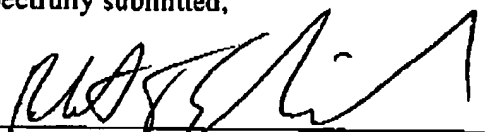
A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/30/2006 has been entered.

In response, Applicant respectfully notes that the *second* Notice of Allowance, which was mailed on August 10, 2006, was issued after the filing of a second Request for Continued Examination, which was filed via Certificate of Mailing on June 27, 2006 with an Information Disclosure Statement. The second RCE was filed in response to the first Notice of Allowance, which was mailed on May 2, 2006. It is noted for the sake of clarity in the record that the second RCE was *not* filed in response to a pending final rejection, as the examiner's paragraph recited above seems to indicate.

Extension Request and Fee Authorization. It is submitted that no fees or extensions are required with this communication. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 50-0305 of Chapman and Cutler LLP, including fees for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136 for filing this communication, such extension being hereby requested.

The examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned with any questions or comments so that efforts may be made to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Date: September 1, 2006
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

Attorney Docket Number: 1715861
App. Serial No.: 10/500,808
Date of Facsimile Transmission: September 1, 2006
Transmitted to Facsimile No.: 1-571-273-8300

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence, namely: Comment on Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, was transmitted by facsimile on the date listed above, to the U.S. Patent Office at the facsimile number listed above, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

Signature: 

Typed Name of Person Signing this Certificate: Jane S. Berman, Reg. No. 43,494

Date of Signature: September 1, 2006